

# **The Church Confronting and Forgiving**

**II Corinthians 1:23-2:11**

*We're in this together!*

(I Cor 12:26)

**Painful, destructive developments**  
**When confronting others...**  
**Forgiving and restoring**

**The Church Confronting and Forgiving – II Cor 1:23-2:11**

# **Painful, destructive developments**

# Original Plan



# Change of Plan



# Actual Events



- Unexpectedly difficult and painful time in Corinth
- Strong, tearful letter upon returning to Ephesus

# Painful, destructive developments When confronting others...

## – It is not about personal vindication

- See I Cor 6:7,8; I Pet 2:23 and I Cor 4:3.
- Paul's confrontation of others is always motivated by *their* good and the advancement of *God's* reputation and purposes. See II Cor 2:5; 12:19ff.
- We don't confront others about their sin for *our* sake, but for *theirs* and for *God's*!

# Painful, destructive developments When confronting others...

- It is not about personal vindication
- Used severity sparingly and as last resort
  - I Cor 2:4; 10:1-2; 11:1-2; 12:19-21; 13:1-2,10.
  - Eyes not focused on finding fault, tongue not tuned to criticize, voice not edged with harshness. But instead: I Cor 13; Phil 4:8 etc.

# Painful, destructive developments When confronting others...

- It is not about personal vindication
- Used severity sparingly and as last resort
- But when it must be done... do it in love
  - See [II Cor 2:3,4; 1:24; 2:8](#).  
Afflicted soul, anguished heart, tear-stained eyes.
  - Follows God's own way of dealing with us. [Heb 12:6-11](#).  
The Father's discipline of His children is an expression and proof of His love!
  - Loving enough ... to confront!
  - Just Do it! (but fully self-aware) [Gal 6:1](#)

# The Church

## Confronting and Forgiving

**II Corinthians 1:23-2:11**

*We're in this together!*

**It's part of what being the family of God means**

- Have you ever loved someone here enough to lovingly confront them about their sin?
- Has any here ever loved you enough to lovingly confront you with yours?